

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PC-01 PRS-01  
ACDA-07 CU-02 SCA-01 SCS-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
/094 W

-----021227Z 092707 /50

O 021120Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3353

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7 IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

/AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE 7289

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T KINSHASA 4121

PASS PEACE CORPS; USIA FOR IAA, IOP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: SITREP 49 (MAY 2, 1977)

1. FOLLOWING IS THE 49TH MISSION-WIDE SURVEY INCLUDING REPORTS  
FROM LUBUMBASHI.

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MILITARY SITUATION AS OF 010900Z MAY 77.

NOTE: ALL GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCES ARE TAKEN FROM JOINT OPERATIONS  
GRAPHIC SERIES 1501 MAPS.

2. HOSTILE FORCES:

A. DDN HAS LEARNED THROUGH AIR RECON THAT 3 VILLAGES IN THE  
KAFKUMBA AREA (VICINITY 0940S/2346E) HAVE BEEN BURNED AS OF 28 APR.

B. THE RECON MISSION OF 28 APR ALSO REPORTED SPOTTING A HOSTILE PLATOON GUARDING THE BRIDGE WEST OF SANDOA AT APPROXIMATELY 0943S/2252E.

3. ZAIRIAN FORCES:

A. REPORTING ON BOTH HOSTILE AND FRIENDLY FORCES HAS BEEN HAMPERED BY A PRESIDENTIAL DECISION TO EMPLOY COURIERS RATHER THAN RADIO FOR REPORTS. PRES. MOBUTU IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO KINSHASA ON 02 MAY AND DDN IS HOPING THAT UPON HIS RETURN, THEY WILL ONCE AGAIN BE ABLE TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY RADIO FROM SHABA.

B. THE FORWARD FAZ/MOROCCAN ELEMENTS REMAIN AT THE VICINITY OF MASOJI (1027S/2401E) WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS DUE TO LACK OF FUEL FOR THE 63 ASSORTED VEHICLES WHICH ARE WITH TASK FORCE MUKOBO.

C. FAZ IS IN THE PROCESS OF REORGANIZING THE AIRSTRIP AT MUTSHATSHA (1039S/2426E) AND IT WILL SOON BE ABLE TO ACCEPT A BUFFALO. THE PLAN IS TO ESTABLISH A FORWARD LOGISTICAL BASE AT THIS LOCATION.

D. BELGIAN ADVISORS WILL START TRAINING A FAZ BRIGADE OF THE KAMANYOLA DIV. (SEE PREVIOUS SITREPS) ON 2 MAY AT KITONA BASE IN BAS ZAIRE. ALSO, THE BELGIANS STARTED TO TRAIN A FAZ BATTALION AT KANANGA ON 30 APR, TO BEEF-UP THE FORCE STRUCTURE IN THE TWO KASAIS.

E. FAZ ELEMENTS IN THE KASAIS AND THE KAFAKUMBA SECTOR HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO HOLD PRESENT POSITIONS RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO ATTACK HOSTILE FORCES AT KAPANGA OR KAFAKUMBA. THIS DECISION BASED ON FACT EGYPTIAN GROUND FORCES WILL NOT BE SENT AND NO TRAINED FAZ TROOPS ARE AVAILABLE.

F. MAJ ZUYA WAS TO HAVE TAKEN COMMAND OF LTC VUADI'S BATTALION  
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ON 30 APR. THIS FORCE HAS REGROUPED EAST OF THE LUBILASH RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF KWANDA (0934S/2409E).

G. AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI REPORTS THAT JOURNALISTS WITH MOBUTU IN MUTSHATSHA NOTED THAT ZAIRIAN/MOROCCAN FORCES SEEMED TO HAVE CONSOLIDATED THEIR POSITIONS IN THE AREA. A BUSH LANDING STRIP HAS BEEN ENLARGED TO HANDLE BUFFALO AIRCRAFT NEAR THE TOWN BUT ROAD TRANSPORT FROM THERE TO MUTSHATSHA STATION IS VERY DIFFICULT. RUMORS IN LUBUMBASHI HAD MUTSHATSHA STATION FALLING TO THE INVADERS HOURS AFTER PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S FIRST VISIT THERE LAST WEDNESDAY, BUT THE JOURNALISTS SAID THIS WAS NOT TRUE. FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH MOROCCAN TROOPS THE JOURNALISTS LEARNED THAT THE FRONT LINE WAS 70 KILOMETERS WEST OF MUTSHATSHA ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

4. MOROCCAN FORCES: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

5. UGANDAN FORCES: AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI REPORTS THAT UGANDAN STAFF OFFICERS WERE NOT INVITED TO TAKE PART IN ZAIRIAN/MOROCCAN DISCUSSIONS AND THAT AMIN'S "SUICIDE SQUAD" DID NOT BECOME OPERATIONAL. PRESIDENT AMIN AND "SUICIDE SQUAD" DEPARTED SHABA

AFTER VISIT, HOWEVER 3-5 UGANDAN STAFF OFFICERS REMAINED AS OBSERVERS IN KOLWEZI.

6. EGYPTIAN FORCES: THREE OR FOUR EGYPTIAN MIRAGE PILOTS ARE DUE TO ARRIVE KINSHASA AT 011200Z MAY 77, ACCOMPANIED BY 3 EGYPTIAN MEDICAL DOCTORS, ACCORDING TO THE EGYPTIAN LIAISON OFFICER TO DDN. THESE EGYPTIANS WILL BE BASED AT KAMINA. IT APPEARS, HOWEVER, THAT NO EGYPTIAN GROUND FORCES WILL BE SENT TO ZAIRE. THIS DEVELOPMENT HAS OBLIGED DDN TO SCRUB EARLIER PLANS FOR USING EGYPTIAN FORCES FOR A THRUST FROM KAMINA TOWARDS SANDOA, SIMILAR TO THE EXISTING EFFORT ALONG THE KOLWEZI-DILOLO AXIS.

7. AIR:

A. FAZA MACCHIS DREW GROUND FIRE FROM A SUSPECTED .50 CAL MG AT 300700Z APR 77 APPROXIMATELY 10 KMS WEST OF MASOJI, WHILE DOING RECON OVER THE LUEO RIVER.

B. DDN STILL HAS NOT RECEIVED AN UPDATE ON TACAIR SORTIES OR  
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BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT--THE CURRENT "GAP" IN RADIO REPORTING FROM SHABA IS AT FAULT.

C. DDN DIRECTED AIR RECON OF THE KASAI-SHABA BORDER TO BE FLOWN ON 30 APR. NO RESULTS YET.

D. EGYPT WILL ROTATE THE AN-12 WHICH HAS BEEN SUPPORTING FAZ LOGISTIC OPERATIONS IN SHABA. THE REPLACEMENT AN-12 IS BRINGING IN THE MIRAGE PILOTS AND DOCTORS.

E. ONE US CHARTER DC-8 ARRIVED KINSHASA APPROX 012400Z MAY 77 WITH AIRCRAFT SPARES AND NON-LETHAL SUPPLIES.

8. DOMESTIC PRESS: CONTINUED MOBUTU PRESENCE IN SHABA OPERATIONS AREA FEATURED MAY 2 BY KINSHASA MEDIA. "ZAIRE" MAGAZINE MAY 2 ISSUE SAYS MOBUTU "WILL NOT LEAVE SHABA" UNTIL DILOLO IS TAKEN WHICH "IS ONLY A QUESTION OF DAYS." MOBUTU'S STAY AT THE FRONT IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE, SAYS "ZAIRE" MAGAZINE, TO YOUNG TROOPS OF THE KAMANYOLA DIVISION WHO HAVE JUST EXPERIENCED "THEIR BAPTISM OF FIRE, THEIR FIRST WAR..." SUNDAY "ELIMA" NOTES ADDITIONAL "PROOF" OF OUTSIDE INTERVENTION -- "AN IMPORTANT STOCK OF MEDICINES" MANUFACTURED IN THE USSR, EAST GERMANY AND PORTUGAL. "ELIMA" EDITORIAL -- "SOLIDARITY UNTIL THE FINAL VICTORY" -- PRAISES THOSE NATIONS -- "NEVER SO VIGOROUS AND ACTIVE" ---WHO HAVE AIDED ZAIRE. "SALONGO" EDITORIAL ALSO WAXES ELOQUENTLY ABOUT MANY RAMIFICATIONS OF MOBUTU SHABA TOUR, INCLUDING HIS "NEW ATTACK AND HARASSMENT OF THE ENEMY" STRATEGY.

9. DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION:

A. KINSHASA: BUSINESS AS USUAL.

B. LUBUMBASHI: THE WEEKEND PASSED QUIETLY. PRESIDENT MOBUTU RETURNED TO LUBUMBASHI AT 1800 SATURDAY EVENING AND APPARENTLY SPENT THE WHOLE DAY SUNDAY AT HIS RESIDENCE. THE JOURNALISTS TRAVELLING WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY COULD NOT GIVE A DEFINITE

ITINERARY FOR THE PRESIDENT, BUT BELIEVE THAT HE WILL REMAIN IN THE AREA IN THE EXPECTATION THAT ANOTHER TOWN, PERHAPS KASAJI, WILL FALL IN THE COMING WEEK AND RETURN TO KINSHASA PERHAPS VIA THE KASAI. DESPITE THE EXCELLENT TREATMENT THAT THE JOURNALISTS RECEIVED, THEY FELT THAT THE MOBUTU ENTOURAGE WAS  
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TRAVELLING BY THE "SEAT OF THEIR PANTS" WITH LITTLE IDEA OF WHERE THE NEXT STOP MIGHT BE.

C. MUTSHATSHA: PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND HIS PARTY FLEW TO MUTSHATSHA FROM KOLWEZI ON BOTH APRIL 29 AND 30, ACCOMPANIED ON THE FIRST DAY BY UGANDAN CHIEF OF STATE IDI AMIN DADA. JOURNALISTS IN THE PARTY REPORTED SEEING NO PEOPLE IN THEIR TRAVELS IN AND AROUND MUTSHATSHA STATION AND MUTSHATSHA TOWN SOME 18 KILOMETERS AWAY. THE JOURNALISTS SAID THEY SAW POSTERS LEFT BEHIND BY THE INVADERS WHICH FEATURED PICTURES OF GENERAL NATHANIEL MBUMBA AND CLAIMED THAT THE INVASION WAS NOT SECESSIONIST IN NATURE BUT AIMED STRICTLY AT THE MOBUTU GOVERNMENT.

D. KOLWEZI: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

E. KAMINA: AMERICAN WHO RETURNED FROM KAMINA ON APRIL 30 REPORTED THAT LIFE IN THE TOWN HAD RETURNED TO NORMAL. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS BETWEEN FAZ SOLDIERS AND THE CIVILIAN POPULATION HAD DROPPED OFF DRAMATICALLY IN THE LAST WEEK. AT THE END OF THE SECOND WEEK OF THE NEW QUARTER, ABOUT 70 PERCENT OF THE STUDENTS HAD RETURNED TO CLASS. ONE SCHOOL REPORTED ONLY ABOUT A DOZEN ABSENT STUDENTS. CONSULATE COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT THE NEW LEADERSHIP AT KAMINA BASE HAS SUCCEEDED IN AT LEAST TEMPORARILY CURBING THE HARASSMENT BY THE SOLDIERS OF KAMINA'S CIVILIAN POPULATION.

10. AMERICAN CITIZEN SITUATION: NO CONTACT REPORTED WITH MISSIONARIES IN KAPANGA ON APRIL 30 OR MAY 1.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009